

Subject-Verb Agreement 3

Subjects and verbs must agree in number in your sentences. A singular subject needs a singular verb. (The *book is* hidden.) Plural subjects require plural verbs. (The *books are* hidden.) It's also important to know which indefinite pronouns need a singular verb. Pronouns like *each*, *one*, and *everyone* require singular verbs. (See pages 555, 570, and 571 in *Texas Write Source* for more information.)



Examples

Each of the boys hopes to find a fossil.

Either is capable of finding bones just like paleontologist Othniel Marsh.

Neither Jon nor Sherman expects to find a Brontosaurus bone.

Directions

In the following short paragraph, underline the subjects with a single line and their verbs with two lines. The first sentence has been done for you.

- 1 For a long time, no one realized that the Apatosaurus and the
- 2 Brontosaurus were the same dinosaur. Different sets of dinosaur bones
- 3 were found in different places in Wyoming and were thought to be from
- 4 different dinosaurs. The first skeleton discovered had no skull. The
- 5 American scientist Othniel Marsh named it Apatosaurus. Two years later,
- 6 scientists found a more complete skeleton. Marsh named it Brontosaurus.
- 7 Eventually, everyone realized that these two dinosaurs were the same. One
- 8 of the names—Apatosaurus—has become formally accepted and is used by
- 9 paleontologists. One of the names—Brontosaurus, the thunder lizard—
- 10 seems to be more popular with the general public.